

Request for Council Action

Originator Community Development	Item Hennepin County District Court Letter of Intent (LOI)
Agenda Section Organizational	Date 11/2/2015

Description

Hennepin County and the City of Bloomington propose working together to add a District Court facility to the Bloomington Civic Plaza building. Hennepin County's Southdale District Court is scheduled to close, and the County has determined that the Bloomington Civic Plaza is a suitable replacement site.

The County requests the City of Bloomington to enter into the attached non-binding Letter of Intent (LOI), outlining basic tenets of what will become a development agreement and terms of a lease between the City and County. Revisions have been incorporated into the LOI based on Council discussion at the October 12 Study Meeting. If the LOI is approved by the City Council, a development agreement and a lease agreement between Hennepin County and the City of Bloomington will be negotiated and subject to approval by both the City and County.

The proposed two-story, 28,000 square foot building will include two courtrooms and workspace for about 23 court employees. The addition is proposed west of the Police Department wing of Bloomington Civic Plaza. The site and building will be owned by the City of Bloomington and leased to Hennepin County for a thirty year term, with options to renew. The court facility will have a separate, dedicated entrance for Hennepin County/State of Minnesota employees and members of the public who use the courts.

The addition will be designed to match the current exterior, with the design subject to City approval. The City and County are reviewing current and anticipated Civic Plaza parking demands, crosswalk and transit stop needs, and wayfinding signs to direct the public to the dedicated entrance to the courts facility. Hennepin County has indicated that there will be flexibility in coordinating scheduling of the court facility during high demand parking days at Civic Plaza. Plans for the facility have not been completed. LOI Exhibits A and B are the general design concepts for the building addition.

The following representatives will attend the meeting: Mark Thompson, Hennepin County Assistant County Administrator, Kate Fogerty, Courts Administrator, Michael Noonan, Senior Administrator of the Hennepin County Land Division, and Brett Bauer, Division Manager, Hennepin County Facility Services.

Requested Action

Approve the Letter of Intent with Hennepin County.

Attachments:

Letter of Intent between Hennepin County and the City of Bloomington